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Agency Information

AGENCY: HSCA  
RECORD NUMBER: 180-10097-10488

RECORD SERIES: NUMBERED FILES

AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 014115

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Document Information

ORIGINATOR: HSCA  
FROM: LOPEZ, EDWIN JUAN  
TO:

TITLE:

DATE: 05/08/1978  
PAGES: 3

SUBJECTS:  
DEA

DOCUMENT TYPE: MEMORANDUM  
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified  
RESTRICTIONS: 2; 3  
CURRENT STATUS: Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 11/03/1993

OPENING CRITERIA:

COMMENTS: Box 251.

MEMORANDUM

014115

TO: Files  
FROM: Edwin Juan Lopez  
DATE: May 8, 1978  
RE: DEA Files on Bernardo de Torres

On May 4, 1978 at 10:35 p.m. I visited Dave Melocik and Louis Backrack at the Drug Enforcement Administration and saw Bernardo de Torres' files. The file is not complete. His CI application forms are missing; only the FBI fingerprints are included. Follow-up on 75 plan is not in the file.

Nonetheless, attached are notes on Bernardo de Torres and a friend [REDACTED] who informed on him.

Should be read carefully!

BNDD notes viewed at the CIA were also not in the file at DEA. Need them soon!

Recommended follow-up: speak to S/A Joe Doredant about incomplete file or lack of follow-up. Set up a meeting with CIA and DEA re De Torres.

DEA Notes on Bernardo de Torres

SGI-2-0035

Report re: Six-months status of Class II Participating Cooperating individual

Class II participating cooperating individual can be reached through the Thomas F. Gilliotte law firm in Miami.

May 14, 1973

- provided info on Raul O Leal--Cuban now in Santo Domingo believed to be trafficking in narcotics between Santo Domingo and Puerto Rico.
- expected to travel to Santo Domingo in D.R. within the next few days and meet with the Defense Minister on a legitimate business deal. Defense Minister is a partner and friend of Leal (in a casino).

Traveling to Bogota and Caracas on personal business  
Bogota 11/23/72 thru 11/26/72 and then in Caracas 11/29/72

C.I. stated while in Caracas that he will attempt to contact Fernando Albuerne. C.J. states Albuerne was associated with the former Jean Restoy in the narcotic traffic and then C.J. will attempt to arrange for future negotiations with a R-5 agent for delivery of cocaine. Albuerne is the cousin of Juan Restoy and a former singer residing in Costa Rica. The C.I. will contact Caracas and Bogota Do's in the event he can provide intelligence or requires assistance.

11/8/72

Traveled to Mexico and South America in 72 on personal basis on several occasions and is attempting to establish sources from which he can develop detailed information on narcotic trafficking in these areas.

De Torres states that he can lead BNDD\* agents to Juan Restoy for a flat fee of 10,000. BNDD does not anticipate that the payment of funds will exceed 1,000 in the form of information and active participation.

Was suspected March 15, 1977 of trafficking in Narcotics as well as importing contraband from Columbia and South America.

\*Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs

Monday June 9, 1975

[REDACTED] was referred to the Miami Regional Office because of his offer to furnish information in reference to drug trafficking in the region.

Referral: via Mitch Warbell, III, through Lucien Conien to G/S John Hampe.

Interviewed 3 times by S/A Doredant - Gave info re:  
Bernardo de Torres: uses and sells cocaine  
sources in Key West  
associated with Organized Crime Figure  
Santo Trafficanti

[REDACTED] Santo Domingo, D.R. M 5'9" 170 lbs. Brown eyes  
Driver's Licence A352 46041338 exp. 9/18/77. Brown hair  
INS # [REDACTED]

- used as informant though arrested for possession of cannabis; possession of narcotic paraphernalia, maintaining a house used as drug outlet, 2 counts of written check charges.
- [REDACTED] claims charges are false, trumped up and will pose no problems to him.

July 1975

De Torres recently returned to Miami, Florida from Panama and Costa Rica. De Torres is picking false press cards, written in English, for use in Latin America. De Torres claims to have access to over 450,000 to make an investment for quick profit. De Torres is planning a trip to Columbia S.A. on 7/12/75. Headquarters EPDS is requested to place De Torres on INS Soundex and Customs TECS to monitor his return.

S.A. Joe Doredant

De Torres is suspected of arranging for the illegal importation of about 400,000 worth of contraband from Columbia, through Venezuela into the Florida area. Traveled through Manuel Rodrigus Travel Agency 2/15/74.